of control over the movement and use of tapioca. The subject of rationing did not come under the consideration of the Council in connection with the demand. I have, therefore, decided that the Council cannot receive this petition since it deals with a matter which is not and was not yesterday actually under the consideration of the Council.

Adjournment Motion

Mr. President.—I have received from the Hon'ble Member Mr. Pylee notice that he wishes to move the adjournment of the Council for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious inconvenience caused to residents within the limits of the Ernakulam Muncipality by the arrangement now made for scavenging only on alternate days. I shall be glad if the Hon'ble Member would satisfy me that this is a matter of recent occurrence and that it is a matter of such urgent public importance as to warrant the adjournment of the business of this House.

* **Mr. L. M. Pylee** *(Latin Christian-Ernakulam):* Sir, the matter is urgent. It is obvious from the nature of the subject itself and it is of public importance because in a Municipality like this a matter of such absolute necessity in which so many people are concerned I would submit that it is quite obvious that it is a matter of public importance and of recent occurrence I wish to submit that the present arrangement upon which I have tabled this motion has been made only within the last three or four days. That is my information. The order was passed only after this meeting began. Previous to that this arrangement might have been in existence. This actually has occurred only recently and is continuing and therefore, I submit that this motion may be accepted.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* It is very much regretted that Government had to resort to this course.

Mr. President: Is it the Government or the Municipality ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I am sorry, Sir, it is the Municipality. The Chairman has held out an assurance that everything that is possible will be done by the Municipality to stop this practice as early as possible. They have now adopted it as a purely temporary measure due to reasons beyond their control. I expect it will be rectified in a week or two. It is concerded that the present situation is rather a serious one, but every effort will be made by the Government to induce the Municipality to resume the old practice of daily scavenging.

Mr. President: I quite accept the Hon'ble Member's contention that this is a matter of importance. But inasmuch as it is primarily the concern of the Municipal Council and not of the Government I hardly think that we should be justified in adjourning the business of this House to consider the matter, more particularly in view of the fact which has been represented from the Government Benches that Government are well aware of the matter and are doing what they can to induce and to help the Municipal Council to improve the conditions .

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS *(cont.)*

23. Medical

CUT MOTION NO. 39 *(cont.)*

The inadequacy of provision for the diet of Patients

***Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Sir, I rise to support this motion. Yesterday the Hon'ble Member for Medicine was pleased to inform this House that he has budgetted for this amount as dietary charges on the basis of an allowance per patient being at 3 or 4 annas. On the basis of that figure and in view of the high prices of foodstuffs prevailing now it does not require a long speech to show that the food actually given to these patients is not at all adequate. Sir, I take it that the items of food given to the patients are the same in all the hospitals in all other Districts. If so, from my knowledge of the condition of things in the Chittur hospital, they are given rice gruel of questionable quantity twice a day. Am I right ? They are given rice gruel and some curry which is mere tamarind water. I am not finding fault with the officers because with the allowance actually made to them they can only supply as much. The patients ought to be satisfied with this rice gruel twice a day, in the morning at 9 O'clock and in the evening,

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* We give rice in the evening. Thrice a day.

* **Mr. T. S. Ramachadara Ayyar** *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* I am told that in former days patients were given in addition to this milk and bread also. I do not want to waste the

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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